Aden

703 The way to do this is to use the Air Arm as much as possible. The Arabs are a proud race and rate personal bravery highly, as highly as they do prestige, and frankly, that is far too high. They will not give in to an inferior force, but will shoot it out to the end. They are unlikely to give in to a slightly superior force, but they will give in to an overwhelming force and often be secretly glad to do so.

648 726 703 I found when using the Government Guards or the Aden Protectorate Levies to deal with petty malefactors that if I sent a small but adequate force there was invariably a fight, but if I sent far more men than were necessary the malefactors' pride was saved and there was no blood shed.

648 726 703 706 707 An example of air-land co-operation based on actual fact involves an aeroplane and two patrol cars. The aircraft was on frontier reconnaissance patrol; the pilot spotted a lorry travelling southwards inside the Protectorate border in a prohibited zone. This was up on the Saudi Arabia-Aden frontier. He circled and at the same time wirelessed to the nearest frontier Post for patrol cars. The lorry was halted by a burst of fire well in front. A message was dropped and the lorry was ordered to remain stationary and wait for the patrol cars. It did so. The aircraft guided the cars to the lorry. It was loaded with rifles for distribution in the Protectorate and carried a number of well-armed tribesmen. There was no fight; the aircraft was the overwhelming force. The tribesmen were disarmed and the lorry was taken to the nearest Hadhrami Bedouin Legion Post. If the aircraft had not been used on patrol, the lorry would not have been spotted, and if the aircraft had not been there when the patrol cars arrived, there would have been a very unpleasant scene indeed. The tribesmen would certainly not have given in without a fight and lost the rifles, each one of which was worth locally one hundred pounds sterling.

648 726 707 In action against raiders from across the frontier in hilly country, aircraft are not nearly so lethal as many think because the lightly armed raiding tribesman has so much cover at his disposal. In fact they are very hard indeed to hit at all.